

# Stop U.S. Germ Warfare!

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## Part V.

### The Case Against the United States Germ Warfare Criminals

The Chinese People's Committee for World Peace

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## **THE CASE AGAINST U.S. GERM WARFARE CRIMINALS**

The United States government stands indicted before the world for one of the basest crimes in human history—bacteriological warfare.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai's statement of March 8, condemning this crime, has alerted all sane forces for peace and humanity in the world against these new enormities committed by the American despoilers of Korea. The peoples of all countries know that the extremities of barbarism to which the Americans have now resorted are a blow not only at the whole structure of international law and custom but also at the very moral basis of human justice and decency.

With the sneering cynicism so characteristic of the present leaders of American imperialism, Dean Acheson, on March 4, denied the charges of bacteriological warfare and, with nauseating hypocrisy, affected "deepest sympathy" for the "very sad situation" of the Korean people, which he blamed on "Communist inability to care for the health of the people under their control." Since then, Acheson has mobilised all available propaganda outlets in strident, frantic denials that Washington has ever even contemplated such treacherous means of warfare.

The people of the world know well by now what Acheson's "denials" are worth. They will throw the grim facts in Acheson's face and demand an accounting on the severest terms.

### **Evidence Gathered**

The criminal evidence gathered on the scene is already heavily documented. This evidence is constantly increasing as reports come in from the teams of medical and other experts who have rushed to the danger areas.

The case against the American war criminals, however, is not based on such evidence alone. It lies in the nature of American

bacteriological warfare as an integral part of the long-range policy and strategy of aggression by the Washington government. When Acheson affects a shocked attitude as if he had never heard of bacteriological warfare, he is flying in the face of facts which have long been a matter of record in the U.S. itself.

American preparations for the prosecution of "biological warfare" were not begun yesterday but all of ten years ago when an organisation disguised under the name of War Research Service began working to perfect bacteriological weapons. Details of the wartime operations were disclosed in 1946, in a report by G .W. Merck (who later became chairman of the U.S. Biological Warfare Committee and was decorated by Secretary of War Patterson in the same year for developing biological warfare). The report revealed that after 1943, bacteriological warfare research was stepped up and taken over by the U.S. Army Chemical Warfare Service, which set up its main centre of operations, cryptically called "Special Projects Division", at Camp Detrick near Frederick, Maryland. Large laboratories and pilot-plants were built, and during World War II, some 3,900 people worked in them. Field testing stations were organised at Pascagoula, Mississippi and Dugway, Utah, and a big plant for large-scale production was built at Vigo, Indiana. In addition, the U.S. Navy had its own germ warfare project in the University of California. The cost of the whole U.S. project was put at about 50 million dollars. The report cynically noted the fact that this was the "cheapest" form of mass murder. Merck wrote:

It is important to note that the development of agents for biological warfare is possible . . . without vast expenditure of money or the construction of huge production facilities.

With complete shamelessness, the Merck report listed, among the main lines of research, the "development of methods and facilities for the mass production of micro-organisms and their products; experiments on methods of increasing the virulence of such organisms; field experiments involving use of animals in the dissemination of bacteria or bacterial products."

### **Boastful War Criminals**

Money and research were poured into the germ warfare programme. By 1946, American military and political figures were already

showing their eagerness to try out the new weapons of biological warfare against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

In January of that year, the Navy Department announced that the results of their researches under Capt. Albert P. Krueger at the University of California "demonstrate that a man-made epidemic as an instrument of war is a likely possibility."

About the same time, U.S. Air Force General Henry H. Arnold, who dropped the atom bomb over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, threw in an eager remark in his contribution to the book *One World or None*. "It is worth noting," he said, "that biological warfare, consisting of the spreading of disease, could occupy a position similar to atomic warfare."

In its June 15, 1946 issue, *Collier's* magazine quoted General Alden H. Waitt, chief of the Chemical Warfare Service, as saying of the bacteriological weapon:

I believe it to be a practical form of warfare which has great potentialities.

Brushing aside the legal and moral aspects of the matter, this professional butcher added:

It is neither consistent nor intelligent to talk about the horrors of gas and biological warfare, and then condone atomic warfare. I am entirely out of sympathy with talk about the humanity or inhumanity of a weapon.

In the same month, the magazine *Time* reported that boasts about the new weapon were being heard in the U.S. Congress. It quoted Representative Albert Thomas as saying:

We have something far more deadly than the atomic bomb. We have it today—not tomorrow—and furthermore, it is in usable shape.

Representative Harry Sheppard, Chairman of the Naval Appropriations Sub-committee, boasted that the U.S. government was "in an enviable position" with its "progress" in germ weapons, and that the Navy's biological warfare research at the University of California had concentrated on how to spread a disease "which was hundreds of years old and one of the greatest killers."

### Extensive U.S. Germ War Research

In December, 1947 the *New York Herald Tribune* quoted the report of the Government Special Bureau headed by Lieutenant

General Harold R. Bull as saying that the investigation of ways to disseminate radio-active poisons and of secret techniques of using germs against men, animals and plants were all part of the research of the army, navy, and air force and other agencies. The newspaper said that although for security reasons the operations of the germ warfare centre at Camp Detrick were veiled behind a curtain of secrecy, civilian scientists have pointed out that military circles display great interest in certain types of germs and poisons, particularly those disease germs which can be disseminated by means of shells which burst at definite altitudes—such as bacilli anthrax, and yellow fever viruses. They also mentioned bubonic plague, considered as an outstanding bacteriological weapon.

The Merck Report was hurriedly withdrawn partly because it had revealed too much and partly because of shocked public opinion. Little more was said officially about germ warfare until former Secretary of Defence James Forrestal, on March 12, 1949, issued a statement which tried to minimise the huge scale of U.S. preparations for germ warfare and to call them "defensive measures." Forrestal admitted, however, that "Our research indicated that germs or their poisonous products could be used effectively as weapons of war."

The next day, the *New York Times* carried an interview with General Waite in which he reaffirmed his faith in the practicability of biological warfare and said:

I think we have the best scientists in the world working on this problem. At the end of World War II we were far ahead of any of our enemies.

Theodor Rosebury, a Columbia University professor who took part in the Camp Detrick operations, in his book *Peace or Pestilence*, published in 1949, confirmed the role of Camp Detrick as the centre of germ warfare research and openly boasted of the merits of the weapon of disease. "B. W. sets out to produce disease," he wrote, ". . . it can find ways to go forward where natural science falters. . . ."

Rosebury deplored the fact that even in war time, there is a general feeling that the use of biological warfare is a dirty and hateful thing. He said that he considered such an attitude to be emotional and not logical, and that it made no difference whether a man dies pleasantly or painfully—in either case, the end result is a corpse. (In

the summer of 1949, the result of this cynical attitude was revealed by the Canadian press which reported that American experiments on Eskimos with germ warfare weapons had resulted in an epidemic of bubonic plague among them.)

Rosebury hinted darkly at the fantastic purposes of world conquest by the American germ warfare exponents and their impatience to try it out on an actual battlefield in the near future. He wrote:

Only trial and success in battle can justify it (B.W.) completely . . . No other method of selection can give more than provisional information . . . Until it has been used, we will have no way of knowing exactly what it can do, how effective it can be, to what degree it might contribute toward victory or defeat in a World War III.

On July 24, 1949, the American newspapers carried an Associated Press despatch describing an expansion in the scope of the germ warfare programme. The despatch, based on a special U.S. army report, stated that the Army Department had requested an appropriation from Congress of over three million dollars to expand facilities at Camp Detrick for the purpose of improving germ warfare weapons against men and their sources of food—animals and crops. The purpose of the research was for use of germ weapons in any part of the world.

On March 31, 1950, three months before the American aggression began in Korea, Secretary of Defence Louis Johnson in his semi-annual report to the President said that "complete" and "detailed" studies had been made concerning a number of disease agents which were infectious for man, domestic animals and crop plants, but that "it would be unwise from a security viewpoint to publish these studies." The April 1950 issue of the *Military Review*, organ of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, published a comprehensive article on how to wage bacteriological warfare. Among the pointers emphasised were:

Microbes must be "raised" and kept in readiness in large quantities. . . . It must be possible to bring the active agent into contact with the enemy in the proper form; pathogenic ability must be as great as possible—that is, all infected persons, if possible, must be made sick. . . . The sickness produced must be as hard as possible to diagnose and its producer must be hard to determine, and wherever possible, artificial immunisation must not be possible and the producer should not respond to any special chemical therapy.

## Korea as Testing Ground

From the opening of hostilities, Korea was considered as the first testing ground for the new U.S. weapons. On July 8, 1950, a few days after the U.S. government unleashed its armies against the Korean people, an article appeared in the magazine, *Science News Letter*, entitled "Germ Warfare in Korea?" The article said, "Germ warfare may get a trial very soon, if the fighting in Korea continues."

Just before the Americans launched their first bacteriological warfare attack on the Korean people in the winter of 1950-51, the magazine *Look* devoted a long, gloating article in its November 21, 1950 issue to the subject "Remote Control War: Are We Ready for It?" Through several lurid pages, *Look* came out with the answer YES, because of the "progress" made by American "scientists engaged in a vast program opening up awesome vistas of mass death and destruction." The magazine said that "a \$4 billion investment by the U.S. in weapons research since World War II" had produced "major new weapons—guided missiles, germs, gas, radiological agents, atomic warheads for the ground forces—that we'll be ready to use . . ." The article went on:

Some of them would have been ready for use in the Korean war if vital decisions had been made in Washington two years ago . . . But with these causes for delay now out of the way, we are much nearer to remote control warfare and its fearsome adjuncts than the skeptics think. . .

We stand ready to use, if we must, an arsenal of new bacteriological weapons capable of killing thousands at one fell swoop. . .

In December, 1950, Rear Admiral Ellis M. Zacharias, wartime head of Navy intelligence, said in testimony before a Congressional committee that the U.S. has three weapons "far more devastating than the atomic bomb . . . biological, bacteriological and climatological" which could "devastate whole populaces." He added, "Germ warfare, combined with devastation of crops and cattle, could soon reduce the Russians and their satellites to impotence."

Chapman Pincher wrote in the December 1950 issue of the British periodical *Discovery*, (which describes itself as "a monthly magazine of scientific progress") . . . .



Biological warfare work has been continued in America at fair pressure . . . The latest information available to me shows that a practicable long-range bacterial warfare weapon which could be put into operational use if required has been devised in the U.S.

Pincher gave details of one of the types of germ-carrying bombs which the U.S. government had made, tested and kept in readiness long ago for "operational use."

## U.S. Gathered Intelligence

It was, of course, necessary before wider "operational use" of the germ weapons to gather "disease intelligence" on the actual effects of the use of the weapons in Korea. In the spring of 1951, after the first experimental offensive with germ weapons had been launched by the Americans in Korea, Pincher did some thinking aloud for the American germ war theoreticians. In an article entitled "Epidemics Made to Order" in the April, 1951 issue of the magazine *Science Digest*, he wrote:

As with every weapon there are operational shortcomings associated with B.W. Whereas with an atomic bomb it is possible to make a reasonably accurate assessment of casualties, field commanders could never accurately anticipate the effects of germ weapons. Much must always depend on local wind conditions, temperature, and above all the susceptibility of the population being attacked, . .

So the greatest theoretical drawback to germ weapons would seem to be their unreliability. No commander would dare to plan an assault on the assumption that a target which had been germ-bombed must be sufficiently softened—that is, unless he had up-to-the-minute intelligence.

The Associated Press disclosed on May 10, 1951 that U.S. "medical teams" had been operating in Korea "gathering vital information on disease and the medical problems of the Communists" and that for this historic feat in the service of spreading pestilence, Brigadier-General Crawford F. Sams, chief of the U.S. army's so-called "Public Health and Welfare Section" had been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Sams performed equally "distinguished service" by his inhuman experiments on Chinese and Korean prisoners of war to determine their "susceptibility" to various germ weapons. The April 9, 1951 issue of the magazine *Newsweek* referred to a "bubonic plague ship",

an "infantry landing vessel with a laboratory installed, complete with mice and rabbits", lying off Wonsan harbour on which "numbers of Chinese Reds" were "tested". The Associated Press reported on May 18 that these experiments were being conducted on U.S. Landing Craft Infantry No. 1091, and that "each day about three thousand tests were made on oral and rectal cultures obtained from patients at Koje Island's sprawling prisoner-of-war camps."

### Stage Set for "B.W."

The preparations for large-scale germ warfare were carried on at a feverish pace while the Americans stalled at the truce talks and were stalled on the battlefield. Indeed, the conditions in Korea for large-scale field trials were ripe and tempting. The war of movement had turned into a positional war of local actions along a static front stabilised by the implacable defense of the Chinese and Korean fighters. Germ war expert Rosebury had taught, "B.W. would probably not be used in battles in which the opposing forces were in close contact or in rapid or alternating movement." Accordingly, long-projected operations were set in motion.

The *U.S. News and World Report*, which unofficially reflects official Washington, said in its September 21, 1951 issue that "new weapons will get tried out in Korea." It added this insidious note:

Reports persist too, of atomic artillery in Korea or on the way. In addition, new non-atomic weapons of 'fantastic' design are talked of in Congress as being available for use in Korea.

Voicing the Pentagon's fear of defeat on the battlefield while stalling in the truce talks, the magazine threatened the "use of a whole arsenal of new weapons in combat unless the Communists change their minds" in the truce talks and agree to the arrogant American demands. A few weeks later, the warmongering Hearst press clamored for use of the "new weapon" of disease. The *New York Journal-American* said on October 31 that although President Roosevelt had pledged in June, 1943 not to be the first to use germs as weapons, the Pentagon now feels that this view is "unrealistic and actually harmful."

In January, 1952, just a few days before U.S. military aircraft dropped their first load of infected insects over the Yongsodong and

Yongsudong areas in North Korea, General Omar Bradley, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the Senate Armed Services Committee:

We have a definite military plan under which we will endeavour to bring the fighting to an end . . . If we use this plan, it will be as spectacular as anything that has happened in the Korean War so far.

On January 22, Brigadier-General Charles E. Loucks, deputy chief of the Army Chemical Corps, talked in Baltimore of expanded plans for the large-scale use of chemical and bacteriological methods of warfare. Three days later, Brigadier-General William E. Creasy, chief of the Army Chemical Corps Research Command, delivered a speech in Washington lauding the use of "germs, gas and radio-active materials" as the cheapest weapons to subdue an enemy. The U.S. army newspaper *Stars and Stripes* quoted him as saying that the U.S. government had developed weapons which may make it possible to "reduce an enemy's ability to resist" at a smaller "logistical cost" than any other type of warfare and, what was more tempting, "without destruction of his economy", the future spoils of invasion. While these incredible words of cannibalism were being uttered, Creasy's germ bombs were already on their way to Korea to seek, "at small logistical cost," men and not property for destruction, to the glory of American pseudo-science!

On February 2nd, Frederick Kuh wrote in the *Chicago Sun-Times*: that "high places in Washington . . . contemplate a set of actions that should make existence harder for Communist China . . . All these projects and some more secret ones for increasing Communist China's insecurity have powerful backing in the Administration and Congress." On February 29, U.S. aircraft dropped the first batch of infected insects over Fushun County in Northeast China.

### Methodical Execution of Plans

The actual details of what happened on the American-opened germ war front has already been reported to the world. Commissions of highly competent scientists and lawyers, equipped to establish the facts beyond any shadow of doubt, including the Commission sent by the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, have published their findings on the nature of the American crime. The findings on

the character of the disease agents and their methods of dissemination showed the methodical execution of the long-projected plans of the American germ war experts.

Three years ago, Theodor Rosebury had already explored the kinds of deadly disease agents usable in biological warfare in his book *Peace or Pestilence*. The Defence Department consultant came out in favor of such agents as the bacilli, rickettsiae, and viruses which cause bubonic plague, typhoid, anthrax, typhus, spotted fever, encephalitis, cholera, pneumococcal pneumonias, psittacosis, etc. because he considered known preventive vaccines against them to be of from "doubtful" to no effectiveness.

On the methods to be used for the artificial dissemination of disease, Rosebury said,

The main problem is that of distributing a sufficiently high concentration of B.W. agents in such a form that it reaches its target while still active . . . (so that it would not be) wasted, militarily speaking.

The agent would have to be dispersed without killing it, directly into the air at an appointed spot. It might be possible to manage with the aid of explosives, using some of the more stable agents like anthrax spores . . . It is also known that they can be used successfully with infective agents.

Rosebury dealt with the problem of delivering the infective agents, or vectors (such as insects), to their target in those words:

Containers for infected vectors must be so constructed as to permit survival of the vector inside for the required periods, and to allow safe landing from aircraft and insure liberation of the vectors on the ground, along with the usual requirement for safety in handling at the point of discharge.

The method of discharging infected fleas attributed to the Japanese suggests a crude device whereby these insects were liberated at the plane itself. Adequate safety as well as greater effectiveness would seem to require somewhat more elaborate measures. Pasteboard or other light containers, either small or with perhaps one weighted and fragile point to assure breakage on landing might serve the purpose.

Aircraft appear to be the most useful means for dissemination of all agents, whether the agent itself is capable of spreading by the air-borne route or not . . . *The airplane makes possible the dissemination of infective agents far beyond the enemy lines: . . .* (From "Bacterial Warfare" by Theodor Rosebury and Elvin A. Kabat, *Journal of Immunology*, Vol. 56, May, 1947).

Previously publicized reports of such official scientists as Rosebury forced the following admission from the *U.S. News and World Report* in its March 21, 1952 issue:

Is it possible to start an epidemic of say, bubonic plague by artificial means? The answer is yes. There is no practical reason why it cannot be done just as the Communists have charged the United States with doing it—by dropping diseased animals and insects from planes over wide areas . . .

### Camouflaged Treachery

The whole American conspiracy to wage germ warfare was supported by an elaborate conspiracy of subterfuge and public deception, calculated to evade the problems arising from popular opposition to the use of such base and savage means of warfare. Secrecy shrouded all germ warfare projects. As a "blind" for the Navy project begun in 1943 under Vice-Admiral Ross T. McIntyre, Navy Surgeon-General, for example, it was given out that the researchers were studying means of preventing and controlling airborne infections, notably influenza. After the Merck Report was issued, the exponents of human annihilation in the Pentagon sought to camouflage preparations to use the germ weapons under the heading of "defense." With cynical candor, *Look* magazine in its issue of November 21, 1950, tore apart this camouflage. It said:

Most American civilians assume that gas and germ weapons will not be used, chiefly because the mere thought stirs repugnance in this country.

Hardheaded military men view the problem strategically, not morally. The object in a war is to defeat the enemy, they reason; so why is it less humane to kill the foe by gas or germs than by such torture instruments as the flamethrower with which we broiled alive thousands of Japanese in World War II?

For public consumption, military spokesmen continually stress our defense measures against gas and germs. The fact remains that we stand prepared to use such weapons ourselves.

MacArthur's experimental bacteriological attack on the Korean people at the beginning of 1951 went almost unnoticed in the bought press of America and Britain, despite the protests of the Korean People's Government. So much so that General A. C. McAuliffe, in a speech in Louisville last October, was able to gloat, "Bacteriological

warfare represents an ideal diversionary weapon, because it can be used unnoticed. . . . One can give the impression that death or illness arise from natural causes." One of the viciously deceptive means used by the Americans to wage such "unnoticed war" is to use innocuous-looking materials and objects, such as infected leaves, cotton, paper, etc. as well as insects. Another case in point is their current use of "leaflet bombs" in Korea and Northeast China, a subterfuge recently shattered by a voluble but poorly-briefed Congressman, Robert Sikes, chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee. According to an Associated Press despatch of April 5th this year, Sikes told the U.S. press, after taking secret testimony from Maj. General E. F. Bullene, Chief of the U.S. Army Chemical Corps:

The means of delivering germs to enemy territory, the General said, are simple and involve equipment of a type with which we are now already well-stocked . . . such as containers used currently for dropping propaganda leaflets.

Clearly, it has been part of the cold-bloodedly conceived conspiracy of deception to rely on such ineffectual subterfuges to deny charges of germ warfare and so escape the judgement of the peoples. While the Pentagon continues to spread disease in Korea and China, the State Department has frantically disseminated the virus of the colossal falsehood, calculated to produce an epidemic of confusion in world public opinion. The conspiracy has failed before the eyes of a vigilant world, long familiar with every lie and hypocritical pretense of American imperialism.

## **Obdurate Murderers**

The angry uproar of the people of the world against U.S. germ warfare in Korea after the attacks began in late January did not draw penitence or condemnation of germ warfare from U.S. leaders. The U.S. *Congressional Digest* on March 5 carried a typical statement by Major General Bullene repeating Creasy's callous praise for the "economy" and discrimination of the weapon of disease, sparing property, but not men, and clearly stood for its unlimited use in warfare. He admitted that the "chemical service" of the U.S. armed forces had been active in Korea since July 4, 1950 and its units had steadily increased in numbers and activity.

Far from slackening the pace of production, Bullene asked Congress for huge additional funds for germ warfare. His testimony, released

on March 30 by the House Appropriations Committee, emphasized that increased funds for biological warfare were needed because "people were taking it seriously," and further development was "very urgent." He asked for a sum reported by Reuters to be \$23 million over that of last year, and the Appropriations Committee took the unusual step of granting it in full without any cuts.

In the American conspiracy to use germ weapons for aggressive war, the closest collaborator of the U.S. in its aggression in Korea—MacArthur's Japan—was also its closest collaborator throughout the development of germ warfare weapons.

Japanese participation in U.S. germ warfare plans began in 1946, when eighteen Japanese specialists were sent to the United States to hand over the results of their own research, initiated in 1936, into mass murder by disease. The *New York Times* on April 13 last year reported the setting up of bacteriological stations in Japan staffed with war criminals, and MacArthur and Ridgway encouraged the continuation of Japanese bacteriological research and production. A Telepress despatch on December 5 last year reported that Ridgway had sent three former generals, Shiro Ishii, Jiro Wakamatsu and Masajo Kitano to Korea to carry out experiments on Korean and Chinese prisoners of war and to perfect biological weapons for use "in winter warfare" against the Korean and Chinese people. They arrived on a freighter carrying all the necessary equipment for bacteriological warfare, including cholera germs, gas which induces blood poisoning, pestilence germs and other materials.

All three are major war criminals who organised bacteriological warfare in China during World War II and their guilt had been established by the trial of twelve Japanese war criminals by a Soviet Military Tribunal at Khabarovsk in December, 1949. The Khabarovsk Trial showed that Ishii, principal Japanese theoretician of germ warfare, personally directed the wartime bacteriological expeditions in China, invented bacteriological bombs and shells similar to the ones used by the Americans in Korea, and perfected mass breeding of germs, methods of disseminating plague germs in winter conditions on the snow, and the use of fleas as carriers, ruthlessly testing them on human beings. The recent use of bacteriological weapons in Korea and Northeast China bear all the marks of Ishii's evil genius.

## War Criminals Aid Washington

Nor are the Japanese war criminals the only ones to be drawn into America's germ warfare preparations. Nazi specialists, formerly of the German High Command Bacteriological Department, are doing top secret work under orders from the Pentagon. Nazi general Walter Schreiber, former head of the Department, was brought to the United States by the U.S. air force in the middle of 1951 and stationed at the Air Force school in Texas. Other Nazi specialists hired by the Pentagon include Hans Georg Eismann, Dr. Wolt Wilkenning and Heinz Kling, formerly of the German High Command Bacteriological Department. The November 15, 1950 issue of the magazine *New Times* noted that germ warfare research in West Germany was being conducted, among other places, at the Tubingen Biochemical Institute, where scientists are looking for ways to accelerate the multiplication of dangerous germs.

The American engineers of total war have also pressed into service the resources of satellite governments. After World War II, the United States took over the results of British wartime research in germ warfare weapons, and has since then guided British research. "In working collaboration" with Washington, the British government expanded its work and established a new germ warfare establishment called the Microbiological Research Department at Porton, on Salisbury Plain, under the direction of Dr. D. W. Henderson. Chapman Pincher, in his December 1950 *Discovery* article quoted above, cited an official report issued in 1947 as giving details "before security became as tight as it now" of machines designed to produce pneumonic plague. "The fact that ads for microbiologists to work in the War Office have appeared in the technical press recently," he noted, "suggests that the British B. W. work is reaching the experimental weapons production stage." He described the Porton plant as "the biggest science building in Britain", and said that British researchers were working closely with the Americans at Camp Detrick.

In March this year, pointed questions on the amount of British expenditures on germ warfare research and on the activities of Dr. Henderson in conjunction with American projects were raised by M. P. Emrys Hughes in the House of Commons. The replies from the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Defence were reported to have been "totally evasive." (London *Daily Worker*, March 22, 1952).



Germ warfare research is being conducted under American direction in seven laboratories in Canada. The work was spurred on by a three-day top-secret conference of Canadian, American and British scientists in Ottawa in March, 1950. A March 15 despatch by Canadian Press reported that the conference was attended by one of Canada's four chiefs of staff and that it dealt with "certain projects within the broad fields of bacteriological, chemical, arctic, psychological and other phases of warfare. . . ."

The *Reader's Digest* noted in January, 1951 that:

In southern Alberta, on a vast tract which covers nearly a thousand square miles, the Suffield Experimental Station has become world famous for its field trials in chemical and biological warfare.

Chairman Solandt of the Canadian Defence Research Board paid open obeisance to the Washington directors of Canadian research in germ warfare when he said in an article in the *Montreal Standard* quoted in the *New Times* article mentioned above.

The future of death on a mass scale is very bright. . . . We can expect to do first class work which will be accepted and used by our larger partners.

### **Banned by International Law**

The advanced scale on which the United States has organised preparations for germ warfare in connection with its aggression in Korea is now known to the whole world. Acheson's poker-faced lies cannot divert the attention of an angry world from the fact that the U.S. government is fast outdoing the Nazis and the Japanese aggressors in crimes against peace and humanity and in violation of the laws and customs of war. Acheson and his masters and accomplices will do well to remember the Nuremberg Trial in which the Nazis too tried unsuccessfully to deny their crimes by spreading the fiction that they had no premeditated plans to commit war crimes, and that the German Army strictly observed the laws and customs of war in both letter and spirit.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai has declared that the American use of bacteriological weapons is a war crime. This declaration is firmly based on international conventions, international customary law and in particular, the laws and customs of war. Washington keeps an

eloquent silence on the criminality of germ warfare—it is fully aware of the legal obligations it has violated.

What are the specific laws which apply to the present United States action?

The United States government knows that it violated the International Convention on Genocide unanimously adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 9, 1948. Its crime, in the terms of the Convention, is its "conspiracy" and "attempt to commit genocide" by means of germ warfare—with the aim of "killing and causing serious bodily harm" and "deliberately inflicting" on the Korean and Chinese peoples "conditions calculated to bring about" their "physical destruction in whole or in part". The Convention affirms that such acts constitute "a crime under international law," which the Contracting Parties "undertake to prevent and to punish," and that "persons committing such crimes" shall be punished, "whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals."

The United States government knows that it violated the Geneva Protocol of June 17, 1925, signed by forty-eight states including the United States. The Protocol specifically prohibited "the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases, and of bacteriological methods of warfare." The United States and Japan significantly failed to ratify it, and on April 8, 1947, Truman withdrew it from consideration by the U.S. Senate. But the Protocol is in force among forty-one states and the prohibition must be regarded as part of universally accepted international customary law equally binding on all states. The Protocol itself contemplated that the prohibition "shall be universally accepted as part of International Law, binding alike the conscience and the practice of nations."

The Nuremberg and Tokyo war crimes trials established the principle that the courts can deal even with nationals of states not party to specific conventions by recourse to international custom—and international custom, beyond any shadow of doubt, forbids bacteriological warfare.

The United States Government knows that it violated the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907, to which it is a party. Article 23 of the Regulations annexed to the Convention of October, 1907 says.

. . . It is especially forbidden (A) to employ poison or poisoned weapons, . . . and (E) to employ arms, projectiles or material calculated to cause unnecessary suffering.

The U.S. War Department explicitly acknowledged in Paragraph 28 of its "Rules of Land Warfare" that Article 23 (A) "extends to the use of means calculated to spread contagious diseases."

Many states have made attempts through international action to reinforce by specific conventions the prohibition in international customary law of germ warfare. The Draft Convention of 1930 prepared by the League of Nations Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference provided in Article 39 that the Contracting Powers "undertake unreservedly to abstain from the use of all bacteriological methods of warfare". The Soviet Union demanded in 1949 to introduce the prohibition of concentrated bombing of civilian populations and the use of bacteriological warfare into the new Geneva Convention, but was blocked in its efforts by the United States and its voting machine. (The new Convention on prisoners of war signed on August 12, 1949, however, did obligate the United States as a signatory power not to subject any person "to medical experiments which are not justified by the medical treatment required and are not in his or her own interest." The United States plainly violated this provision by its illegal bacteriological experiments on prisoners of war in Korea.)

## **Punishment Awaits Criminals**

The American violation of the laws and customs of war undoubtedly constitutes a punishable war crime. This principle has been affirmed many times by the various war crimes tribunals after World War II. It was specifically stated as a decision of the Far Eastern Commission on April 3, 1946.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai's warning that U.S. air force personnel brought down while on germ warfare missions will be treated as war criminals reaffirms another principle internationally established during and after World War II—the principle that war criminals are individually responsible for their crimes.

The Moscow Declaration of November 11, 1943 stipulated that such individuals are subject to punishment by the courts of the country wherein they committed the crime. The principles of the Nuremberg

International Tribunal, affirmed by the United Nations General Assembly in Resolution 95 on December 11, 1946, declared that any person committing an act which constitutes a crime under international law is responsible therefor and liable to punishment. The Far Eastern Commission stipulated that "all practicable measures should be taken to identify, investigate, apprehend and detain all persons suspected of having committed war crimes."

But the people of the world will not be satisfied to punish only the flyers who drop germ weapons. When the final accounting is made with the American aggressors, it will not be forgotten that germ warfare and other crimes committed by them were carried out "in execution of or in connection with their war of aggression," (in the words of the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal) and are inseparable from the whole American conspiracy of crime against peace. The instigators of these crimes in America's ruling clique should take note of the precedent set by Article 6 of the Charter of the August 8, 1945 Agreement for the Punishment of the Major War Criminals of the European Axis. This article provided that there "shall be individual responsibility" for "crimes against peace", "war crimes", and "crimes against humanity". Can they possibly ignore the lessons of history?

## **The Moral Issues**

The legal issues are clear. But we do not rest the case on its legal merits alone. The motive of American imperialism in resorting to germ warfare is obvious. It is another step to obtain by new treacherous means what it could not win on the battlefield. It is a cowardly attempt not only to throw back the heroic defenders of Korea and China but also to strike at whole civilian populations and ripen them for invasion. It is an act of desperation against united, peace-loving peoples determined to defend their independence. It is a means to test new "cheap" methods of mass extermination while keeping the Korean armistice negotiations stalled. The Pentagon is attempting to use Korea and Northeast China as huge proving grounds in its preparations for a new war of aggression.

Germ warfare represents the total perversion and prostitution of science. As far back as 1947, microbiologists from many countries, appalled by the prospect that their scientific achievements might be

used for human destruction, passed a resolution firmly condemning bacteriological warfare at the Fourth International Congress of Microbiology in Copenhagen. Their resolution said that the Congress "joins the International Society of Cell Biology in condemning in the strongest possible terms all forms of biological warfare. The Congress considers such barbaric methods as absolutely unworthy of any civilised community and trusts that all microbiologists throughout the world will do everything in their power to prevent their exploitation." The *New York Times* reported on July 27, 1947 that U.S. scientists at the conference "criticized the policy of the U.S. government in withholding all information about developments for bacteriological war". "Elimination of the secrecy" was urged to help prevent the use of the germ weapons. In January this year, the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland was urged to endorse the Copenhagen resolution, and pathologists were called upon to discuss their responsibilities "in relation to the problem of bacteriological warfare and the steps which might be taken to remove the threat of its employment." True scientists the world over have endorsed the resolution. They know that the utter degradation of man is at stake in this issue.

The colossal crime of germ warfare runs directly counter to the security of all peoples and their will for peace. It runs counter to the World Peace Council decisions adopted in November, 1950 in Warsaw, which called for the prohibition of bacteriological, chemical and all other means of mass destruction. Joliot-Curie, president of the World Peace Council, voiced the conscience of the world in his powerful statement of March 8 this year calling on right-minded people everywhere to rise up in denunciation of the U.S. crimes. A ground swell of revulsion and protest is even now surging throughout the world. In the U.S. itself, repudiation of the warmakers is rising from every section of the American people.

The people of the world are already familiar with the American record of crime in Korea—from the original launching of aggression to the indiscriminate bombing and strafing of civilians, the "no quarter" order to shoot and burn everything in sight, the atrocities against civilians and prisoners of war and the use of poison gas. The mounting bitterness of the people's opposition to these hellish crimes is a consuming fire. It will not be quenched until it destroys every war criminal guilty of these atrocities.

On April 1 the World Peace Council issued its stirring appeal to the people of the world against American bacteriological warfare. The appeal said:

We are certain that by demanding protection of the innocent and punishment of the guilty we express the sentiments of the overwhelming majority of the people. On their behalf we uphold the noblest cause—the right of all children to life, the respect for human dignity. Unless the peoples take immediate action so as to put an end to bacteriological war, there will be no bounds to the cruelty and rampage of the forces of destruction. We urge mankind to defend itself.

This appeal issues a call to all peoples and a challenge to all governments in the camp of war. The issues between peaceful progress and the debasement and destruction of man were never clearer. There is no middle ground. All must decide either to join the ranks of peace or stand with the madmen in Washington who propose to wipe out humanity.

The peoples are drawing tight the chain of justice around the American war criminals. Some of the Japanese and Nazi criminals were shielded and saved for future use by the U.S. government. But the impending defeat of American imperialism will wipe out the last frontier of escape for the criminals of today.

Humanity has met and defeated every menace in history. The challenge of American germ warfare will also be met and defeated. The peoples will crush the perpetrators of this crime and send them to join the Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis in the rubbish heap of history.